

## ***FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** December 20, 2012

**Agenda Item:** Smith River State Park & River Corridor Biennial Rule

**Division:** Parks

**Action Needed:** Approval of Final Rule

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 20 minutes

**Background:** The Smith River State Park and River Corridor Biennial Rule establishes fees, permit requirements and associated rules for private, commercial and landowner float trips on the Smith River from Camp Baker to Eden Bridge. The Smith River Rule also enables the department to implement the management direction provided in the Smith River State Park and River Corridor Recreation Management Plan (updated in 2009).

**Public Involvement Process & Results:** The Parks Division conducted a 30-day comment period to solicit public input on the proposed biennial rule, which would be in effect for two calendar years following adoption. One comment was received that expressed concerns regarding expanding RV Parks and competition with the private sector. This comment is noted by the Parks Division but the proposed Smith River Rule does not change camping rules in any way.

**Alternatives and Analysis:** The majority of edits/changes to the rule are grammatical to improve consistency and understanding of terminology. Highlights include:

- Addition of a new section that specifies the rules for the Super Permit Lottery.
- A variety of grammatical edits to improve consistency and understanding.
- Reference to new authorized outfitter Erik Hess, Missoula Fishing Company who bought out High Plains Drifter in 2012.

The Parks Division has prepared a final biennial rule for consideration by the Commission that reflects no changes from the tentative rule approved by the Commission on October 11, 2012.

**Agency Recommendation & Rationale:** The department recommends that the Commission approve the final rule as proposed.

**Proposed Motion:** "I move to approve the final Smith River State Park & River Corridor Biennial Rule."